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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

LORELIE J. SAKDALAN, RN License No. 26NR13014900

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Lorelie J. Sakdalan ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. On or about May 10, 2013, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal for the period of June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2015.
- 3. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2013," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2013. Respondent

answered "Yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.

- 4. Upon receipt of a Medical Malpractice Payment Report indicating that \$2,725,000 was paid out on behalf of Respondent for a January 26, 2009 incident, the Board sent a letter of inquiry requesting certain information and submission of documents regarding the malpractice case, Respondent's current nursing practice, and continuing education to Respondent's address of record in Lakewood, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about June 26, 2013. The regular mailing was not returned; the certified mailing was returned as "unclaimed."
- 5. As of the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, Respondent had not responded to the Board's request for information.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, which the Board deems professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and also subjects Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on June 17, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license, and imposing a reprimand and a total of \$750 in civil penalties. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order and furnished a sufficient response to the Board's original inquiry. Accordingly, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. Respondent also furnished documentation of completion of required continuing education, however she was unable to demonstrate timely completion of those requirements. Accordingly, the Board determined that the Provisional Order should be finalized, including imposition of the reprimand for misrepresentation on the 2013 renewal application, the civil penalty for the initial failure to respond to the Board inquiry (which necessitated the filing of the Provisional Order), and the \$250 civil penalty for failure to timely complete continuing education requirements.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 19 th day of September, 2014, ORDERED that:

- 1. A reprimand is hereby imposed on Respondent for falsifying the continuing education information on her license renewal application.
- 3. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750). Said penalty is an aggregate penalty, which includes a penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) for failure to cooperate with a Board investigation and a penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for failing to timely complete required continuing education. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, delivered to George Hebert, Executive Director, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Payment shall be made no later than 15 days after the entry of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.
- 3. Of the fifteen contact hours of nursing continuing education submitted dated July 21-22, 2014, only two (2) contact hours may be applied to satisfy her 2013-2015 continuing education obligation.

4. The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings based upon any information that Respondent has provided in response to the letter of inquiry or upon any new information the Board receives.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Bv:

Patricia Murphy, PhD APN

President

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